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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

ER 0015-88

January 5, 1988

Mr. Fred W. Friendly
Director
Columbia University Seminars on Media
and Society/Graduate School of Journalism
Suite 248
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10115

Dear Fred:

Your letter of December 16th did not arrive here until December 29th, at which time I was in California for New Year's and have just returned. You know how much I'd like to do the seminars in San Francisco. You have a marvelous group assembled. At the same time, I have participated in enough of your programs to know how important it is for you to lock up the roster. My travel schedule is so heavy in January and February that I am reluctant to give you a firm commitment now, and that translates into asking for a raincheck.

Thanks for being so patient and understanding with me. You must know how much I respect what you are doing in this area and how much I enjoy participating when I can. Still, the show must go on.

Warmest regards to you and love to Ruth,

Sincerely,



William H. Webster

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Dear Bill:

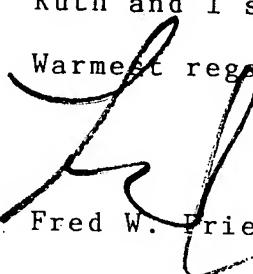
I'm writing this letter because of our inability to connect on the telephone. My schedule is bad, yours I know is impossible and I empathize with you.

The seminars we plan to do in San Francisco on February 12 - 14, 1988, called "Ethics in America" will be an extraordinary event. Justice Scalia will be there, along with Judge Robert Merhige, Floyd Abrams, Jim Neal, Anthony Lewis and others whom you know and respect.

Bill, I don't need to make a speech to you about how much your presence would add to the dialogue about legal ethics and criminal justice and how much I want you to be a part of it. I also don't need to tell you that at some point we have to make final decisions about the participants. If we can't make it work for you this time, I'll take a raincheck for another seminar at another time. Let me know.

Ruth and I send our

Warmest regards,


 Fred W. Friendly

The Honorable William H. Webster
 Director of Central Intelligence
 Washington, DC 20505

Fred W. Friendly
 Director

Cynthia McFadden
 Executive Producer

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P-309-1R

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

August 31, 1987

Mr. Fred W. Friendly
Director
Columbia University Seminars
on Media and Society
Suite 248
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10115

Dear Fred:

Thanks for your letter of August 19th, which I have received on my return today from Aspen. Much as I would like to be with you on the weekend of October 30th, I am pretty much committed to be present that day at SAC Headquarters and have a speech for Don Lay in St. Paul on November 1st. This is particularly disappointing because your subject is one close to my heart and I would like very much to participate.

I'm glad that you and Ruth could find time to have breakfast with me and I thoroughly enjoyed the morning's discussion.

Warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Bill

William H. Webster

ER 4188-87

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Fred W. Friendly
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Cynthia McFadden
Executive Producer

August 19, 1987

Dear Bill:

First let me tell you how much Ruth and I enjoyed our sunlit breakfast with you at the Mark Hopkins. It was a time of conversation among dear friends, and we were privileged to be able to share your insight into your new job and its awesome responsibilities. I'm glad you are where you are even if your daughter had her small doubts.

On the subject of the seminar on "Ethics in America" which you have urged us to do, and which I want you to attend as a major participant: it's going to be held in Boston on the weekend of October 30 - November 1, and the cases we would like to have you on are the ones on ethics in government and in journalism. They will both be held on Sunday, November 1st, so if you have a Friday commitment, which I think you said you do have, you could arrive in Boston on Saturday.

It would mean much to us, Bill, if you could participate. Your keen ability to deal with complex issues has always added immeasurably to our seminars. We would not be discussing intelligence matters or any issue of so sensitive a nature that it could be a problem to you in your new job. We just want the plain old Judge Webster whose sense of integrity is a national asset. Incidentally, I love your line about the "unknown soldiers of a democracy."

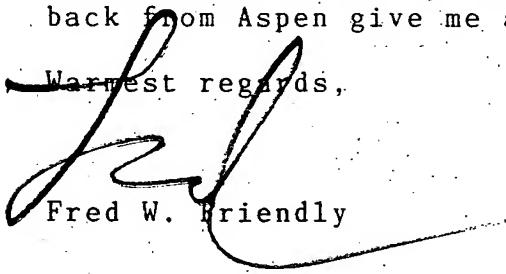
By the way, Ruth and I read "Patriot Game" on the way back from San Francisco. It is riveting and I'm sure that the insights into the reasons we haven't had much domestic terrorism were matters you found most relevant.

August 19, 1987

Page Two

Please think about my invitation, Bill, and when you get back from Aspen give me a ring.

Warmest regards,


Fred W. Friendly

The Honorable William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, DC 20505